

Florida Water Conservation Initiative
Initial Ranking of Conservation Alternatives by Work Groups (6/29/01)

Agricultural Irrigation Work Group			
Rank	Conservation Alternative	"Votes"	Comments
1	Cost share and other incentives to promote efficiency, including BMP's	44	<p>The Agricultural Irrigation work group selected these initial ten ideas to further investigate and evaluate. An interim work group meeting may be scheduled prior to the August 15 Public Workshop.</p> <p>For more information or to comment on these ideas, please contact Rich Budell at (850) 488-6249 or by email: budellr@doacs.state.fl.us</p>
2	Irrigation evaluations and mobile irrigation labs	27	
3	Irrigation recovery and reuse of groundwater and surface water	25	
4	Irrigation management, metering, sub-metering, and other methods to measure water use	13	
5	Most efficient irrigation application for a specific agricultural commodity	12	
6	Crop and agricultural water use research	9	
7	Use of lowest quality water for intended use	9	
8	Public Information/Education	9	
9	Standardize irrigation allocation methodology	7	
10	Increased permit compliance and enforcement	6	

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Non-Ag Irrigation Work Group			
Rank	Alternative	"Votes"	Comments
1	Public Education/ More Public Awareness	25	<p>A follow up meeting is scheduled at the Orlando Utilities Commission, 3800 Gardenia Ave., on July 18th, 2001 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>The purpose of this meeting will be to evaluate <u>each</u> of the alternatives based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of potential water savings • Cost effectiveness of each technology/method • Ease of implementation <p>SFWMD's economists will also review the group's initial priority list and try to place some values (if not numbers, if available) to each.</p> <p>Anyone who has information on these criteria for any of the alternatives is encouraged to participate in the meeting on July 18th.</p> <p>For more information or to comment, please contact Bruce Adams at (800) 432-2045 or by email at: badams@sfwmd.gov</p>
2	Xeriscape / Water Budgeting	28	
3	Training & Certification for Irrigation Installation & Operation	17	
4	Financial Assistance	15	
5	Water Conservation Rate Structures	14	
6	Mobile Irrigation Labs	10	
7	Alternative Sources (Reuse, ASR, Water Harvesting)	15	
8	Soil Moisture Sensors & Rain Sensors	13	
9	Plant Research	8	
10	Tie Development to Water Supply	5	
11	Improved Irrigation Technology	4	
12	Land Purchases	4	
13	Micro-irrigation	2	
14	De-politicize W.M.D.'s	2	

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Indoor Water Use and Water Features Work Group			
Rank	Alternatives for Indoor	"Votes"	Comments
1	Develop / Adopt efficeincy Standards at State Level for Dishwashers & Clotheswashers	16	Because this group was heavily weighted toward indoor water use, a separate set of priorities were included for water features. The group agreed to further investigate the top five indoor alternatives and the top three water feature alternatives before the next public meeting.
2	Promote the Use of Gray Water	12	
3	Require Efficient Plumbing Retrofits at Time of Home Sale	11	
4	Hot Water on Demand Systems	12	
5	Development of Unique Water Closet Systems	8	
	Retain rainwater onsite/ cisterns	10	The group will communicate by email, using a group-mail set up by the Southwest Florida Water Management District, at wetsavings@swfwmd.state.fl.us
	Public information/education	8	
	Replacing Inefficient toilets	5	
	Voluntary contractor & plumber conservation education	4	
	Metering & submetering	3	
	Leak Detection & Repair	3	For more information or to comment, email the group at the above address or contact Kathy Scott at (800) 423-1476.
	Alternatives for Water Features		
1	Ban Non-recycling Fountains	2	
2	Distribute Information via Pool Supply Stores, Educate Maintenance Personnel on BMPs	1	
3	Fountain BMPs	2	
	Rebates for pool covers & leak repairs	3	

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Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Work Group			
Rank	Alternatives	"Votes"	Comments
1	Cooperative funding for development of alternative technologies.	14	<p>No interim meetings planned at this time. The group will communicate via email.</p> <p>Group members are to clarify their ideas by July 18, research each alternative and then evaluate based them based on matrix criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of potential water savings • Cost effectiveness of each technology/method • Ease of implementation <p>For more information or to comment, please contact Elizabeth Thomas at (407) 894-7555 or by email: Elizabeth_thomas@district.sjrwmd.state.fl.us</p>
2	Conservation certification for credit during drought and recognition for achievements.	12	
3	Alternative supplies credits. Financial or regulatory relief for discharges if practicing water conservation.	12	
4	Financial assistance cost share and incentives-Economic incentives.	15	
5	Large users from a public supply should have the same conservation requirements as permitted users.	8	
6	Market transfers through regulatory changes (bubble concept).	8	

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Water Pricing Work Group			
Rank	Alternatives	"Votes"	Comments
1	Conservation rate structures.	30	<p>The group will communicate via email and teleconference. The group is asked to review current list of priorities, modify or suggest new alternatives; and gather additional information on each alternative before the August 15 public meeting. Persons with expertise in any of these areas are invited to participate.</p> <p>For more information or to comment, please contact John Williams at (850) 413-6986 or Tom Swihart at (850) 488-0784, or by email: Jwilliam@psc.state.fl.us, Tom.swihart@dep.state.fl.us</p>
2	Cost/benefit analysis of conservation vs. new supplies.	26	
3	Informative Billing	17	
4	Water use fees for all users of limited groundwater resources	16	
5	Metering and sub metering to measure water use	15	
6	Market transfers of conserved water	14	
7	Drought rates during water shortages	10	
8	Reduce water supply development subsidies	9	
9	Permittee Conservation Incentive Program	9	
10	Marginal cost pricing	5	
11	Price to reflect environmental externalities	4	
12	Greater accountability for water use	4	
13	Mandatory metering for residential irrigation	3	
14	Connection fees should reflect additional incremental costs	0	
14	Real time billing	0	

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Water Reuse Work Group			
Rank	Alternatives	"Votes"	Comments
	<i>Encourage and Promote Water Reuse</i>		<p>The Water Reuse Work Group decided to prioritize their ideas under three areas of emphasis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Encourage and Promote Water Reuse</i> • <i>Encourage Efficient Water Reuse</i> • <i>Encourage Effective Water Reuse</i>
1	Facilitate seasonal reclaimed water storage (including ASR) (a)	31	
2	Implement viable funding programs (WMD programs modeled after SWFWMD and/or state grant programs) (b)	23	
3	Provide CUP credits for utilities that implement reuse programs.	20	
4	Facilitate permitting of backup discharges	16	<p>The group will communicate by email. The group is now evaluating each of the 16 priority alternatives based on water saved, cost effectiveness, and ease of implementation. The work group leaders will prepare a preliminary draft report for these 16 activities for distribution well before the August 15 public meeting.</p>
5	Assist in ensuring economic feasibility for the end user	15	
6	Encourage use of supplemental water supplies {avoid restrictions}	14	
7	Education & outreach (include educating the media and effective communication of the reality of water supply limitations) (b,c)	14	
8	Assist in ensuring economic feasibility for the reclaimed water utility	12	<p>The topic of specifically encouraging water reuse in Southeast Florida will also be emphasized at the next public meeting.</p>
	<i>Encourage Efficient Water Reuse</i>		
1	Education & outreach(d)	21	<p>The Water Reuse group has made several recommendations to other work groups, which are attached to the bottom of this table.</p>
2	Encourage reuse system interconnects	12	
3	Encourage implementation of conservation rate structures for reclaimed water service	12	
4	Encourage automatic rain sensors/shutoff devices on irrigation systems	11	<p>For more information or to comment, please contact David York at (850) 922-2034 or Chris Ferraro at (407) 894-7555, or by email: david.york@dep.state.fl.us Chris.ferraro@dep.state.fl.us</p>
5	Training & certification for irrigation professionals	11	
6	Encourage metering, submetering, & other methods to measure reclaimed water use	9	
	<i>Encourage Effective Water Reuse</i>		

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1	Promote agency support for ground water recharge and indirect potable reuse [38]	38	
2	Implement viable funding programs (WMD programs modeled after SWFWMD and/or state grant programs – this should include grant conditions designed to ensure efficient and effective reuse) [23] (d,f)	23	
3	Revise Chapter 403, F.S., and 62-610, F.A.C., to enable re-directing of existing reuse systems to other, more desirable reuse options {including, but not limited to, indirect potable reuse & ground water recharge} [16]	16	
4	Link reuse to Regional Water Supply Planning [13]	13	

Recommendations from Reuse Work Group to Other Work Groups

Agriculture – Use reclaimed water in lieu of other water sources.

Non-Agricultural Irrigation – Use reclaimed water in lieu of other water sources.

Indoor & Aesthetic Water Use – Use reclaimed water in lieu of other water sources.

Commercial/Industrial – Use reclaimed water in lieu of other water sources.

Reuse endnotes:

- (a) Numbers in brackets represent the number of votes received during the prioritization activity at the June 29 public workshop.
- (b) This item relates to all 3 Areas of Emphasis. Strategies will be developed and discussed under the Encourage & Promote Reuse Area of Emphasis.
- (c) The item dealing with educating the media, which received an additional 9 priority votes, will be incorporated into this item.
- (d) Strategies will be developed and discussed under a corresponding item in the Encourage and Promote Reuse Area of Emphasis.
- (e) This item received more priority votes than any other individual item identified and discussed at the June 29 public workshop.
- (f) Under this Area of Emphasis, 13 priority votes were cast for WMD funding programs and 10 additional votes were cast for a state grants program. In addition, funding-related items received 39 priority votes under the Encourage and Promote Reuse Area of Emphasis.